

JOHN H. BOYD.

MAY 25, 1898.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. CASTLE, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 9466.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 9466) granting an increase of pension to John H. Boyd, have examined the same and the evidence relating thereto and respectfully report:

This bill as amended proposes to increase from \$12 to \$30 per month the pension of John H. Boyd, of Baker City, Oreg., who served from September 5, 1861, to May 20, 1862, when he was honorably discharged from Company C, Eighth Iowa Infantry, on account of disability. He again enlisted March 22, 1864, and served until February 15, 1866, when he was mustered out with Company F, First Iowa Cavalry. The records show that he was treated in October, 1861, for a rheumatic trouble, and in June, 1865, for diarrhea. The certificate of disability on which he was discharged from his first service states that it was on account of—

organic disease of heart and induration of the neck of the bladder. Said soldier has been under medical treatment for nephritis and cystitis during the months of February and March, laboring at the same time under disease of heart. He was furloughed for thirty days on the 13th day of March, but did not recover from the above-stated diseases.

He filed and established a claim for pension under the general law, and has been pensioned at \$8 from June 1, 1887, to November 25, 1891, since which he has received \$12 per month for chronic diarrhea and resulting disease of rectum, and disease of heart. Applications for increase were rejected March 15, 1895, March 16, 1897, and October 29, 1897.

Claimant has alleged rheumatism and varicose veins, as due to service, but is unable to furnish evidence to connect them with the service, and the Pension Office declines to accept them as results of pensioned causes.

Claimant is 6 feet and 4 inches in height, weighs 160 pounds, and is

66 years of age. At his last examination, September 25, 1897, he was found to have had his left arm amputated 4 inches below the head of radius. He has ankylosis of both knee joints, the result of chronic rheumatic arthritis. The right leg is flexed to an obtuse angle with the thigh, and the left leg to a right angle with the thigh.

He is so disabled from loss of hand and inability to use his legs in walking, as to require the frequent and periodical though not regular and constant personal aid and attendance of another person, and is entitled to \$50 per month.

Evidence filed with this committee corroborates the foregoing as to his physical condition, and shows further that he has no income or means of support except his pension.

December 7, 1897, the claimant filed a declaration alleging as new disabilities varicose veins, rheumatism, disease of spine, general and nervous debility and neuralgia, but as the claim has been exhaustively specially examined it is extremely improbable that he can ever establish these disabilities as due to his service in such a manner as to secure allowance at the Pension Office.

It seems probable from the record, showing rheumatic diathesis in the service, also disease of heart and urinary organs and diarrhea, that his present disability is largely due to his military service, and he is in a most pitiable condition of helplessness, and is dependent wholly on his pension.

In view of these facts an increase to \$30 per month is warranted. The passage of the bill is recommended when amended.

STATE OF OREGON, *County of Baker, ss:*

Before me, M. E. Swan, county clerk in and for said county, this day personally came and appeared W. H. Kilburn and J. I. Sturgill, to me well known, and who, after being by me duly sworn, did depose and say: That I am well acquainted with John H. Boyd, and know him to be a poor man, with no source of income or manner of making a living, and that he is dependent upon his pension of \$12 per month to support himself and wife, and that he is a man of good moral character and a good citizen.

W. H. KILBURN, *Sheriff.*
J. I. STURGILL, *Deputy Clerk.*

Sworn to and subscribed before me. Witness my hand and seal of office, in Baker City, this the 5th day of April, A. D. 1898.

[SEAL.]

M. E. SWAN, *Clerk.*

I have this day examined Mr. John H. Boyd, and he is suffering with chronic arthritis deformans of the kneejoint, which is permanent. Also has left arm taken off just below elbow. The kneejoints are held at nearly a right angle, thereby entirely disabling his lower limbs.

E. B. MCDANIEL, M. D.
CARLETON W. FAULL, M. D.

BAKER CITY, OREG., *April 5, 1898.*

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 5th day of April, A. D. 1898, at Baker City, Oreg.

[SEAL.]

M. E. SWAN, *County Clerk.*